

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

INTELLOFAX 18

COUNTRY Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 31 MAY 51

SUBJECT Conditions in North Korea

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(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. [redacted] in the areas of North Korea reoccupied by the North Korean forces, people's committees had been set up and police stations re-established in substantially the same form as before the war. In contrast to their former activity, however, these organizations have all but abandoned their administrative and political functions and are devoting almost all their time and effort to collecting food supplies for the North Korea army, in accordance with army instructions. Only about a third of the government and police employees are doctrinaire Communists.

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2. The Chinese Communists have not interfered with the North Korean political administration nor made any direct attempt to control it.*

3. [redacted] the North Korean government had re-established electric power facilities and transmission lines from Simiju as far south as Sariwon (125-15, 38-30) in the western central and west coast areas of North Korea.

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[redacted] railroads have been repaired enough so that military supplies are being brought by rail from Manchuria to Pyongyang. From Pyongyang south, however, supplies are sent on to the front by truck, horsecart, or oxcart. Cargoes are transferred at the South Pyongyang railway station during the night. Trucks moving south camouflage their lights by tying long corn stalks over the hood and extending some distance in front of the truck in order to direct the light downward.

4. [redacted] telephone lines between Pyongyang and Hamhung and other lines from Pyongyang to outlying provinces such as Kanggye had been destroyed [redacted] the telephone relay point in Simiju established in late 1948 and the West Pyongyang telephone exchange sub-station

CLASSIFICATION

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STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	
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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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No Change in Class. ☒

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established in October 1949 were completely destroyed by fires [redacted]
[redacted] However, the underground telephone cable between Pyongyang and
Simuiju, [redacted] fell into disrepair, and was
restored to operation by the North Korean government in 1950, was in good
condition [redacted] **

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5. [redacted] air raids had forced many North Koreans into suburbs of
the large cities and into the smaller villages, many of them without pos-
sessions or papers. For this reason, except in special cases where an in-
dividual's actions or speech draws attention to him, security forces make no
check of citizenship certificates, even on main highways.*** No curfew is
observed in most North Korean cities, and many refugees move about at night,
carrying their belongings to places they consider safe.

6. [redacted] Chinese Communist propaganda in North Korea claimed that the
Communists had captured [redacted] tanks and other armored equipment
by using only bugles and drums.**** [redacted] many [redacted] trucks
and other vehicles in operable condition were scattered along the roadside
between Kanggye and Kaechon. In almost all cases the engines and tires had
been removed from the vehicles and only the body remained.

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Comment: Destruction of this cable by air attack would be very
difficult, and only a chance hit would affect it.

Comment: [redacted] identification cards were
collected by the North Korean authorities with the plan of issuing new
ones, but no new forms have been provided.

Comment: This claim referred to the Chinese use of bugles and
drums to signal attacks
[redacted]

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